अपेक्षित मदों पर आयात शुल्क को कम/माफ करके पौध सामग्री के लिए पौध संगरोध पद्धतियों को सरल और सुसाध्य बनाकर तथा ब्याज मुक्त आसान ऋण उपलब्ध कराकर निर्यात हेतु पुष्पों के उत्पादन को प्रोत्साहन दे रही है ।

(ग) जी, हां ।

(घ) वाणिज्यिक पुष्पोत्पादन संबंधी केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र की योजना के क्षेत्र विस्तार कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत, सरकार का बिहार में 20 हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र का विकास करने का प्रस्ताव है ; जिसके लिए 4 लाख रुपये की सहायता दी जा रही है । गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में एक छोटी तन्तु पालन इकाई भी स्थापित की जाएगी, जिसके लिए 1 लाख रुपए की सहायता दी जा रही है ।

पुष्पों के निर्यात के लिए प्रोत्साहन देने वाली योजनाएं देश के सभी राज्यों में चल रही हैं और बिहार के किसान भी इनसे लाभ उठा सकते हैं ।

Palm Oil Research Station at Pedavegi in Andhra Pradesh

4067. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has decided to set up a Palm Oil Research Station at Pedavegi in West Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, what is the present stage of the project; and

(c) when the research center is scheduled to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh was not able to provide the site which was selected for establishment of the Centre on the basis of offer made because it belongs to the Ministry of Defence as per land records. The Ministry of Defence have now issued sanction on 9-3-1994 for the transfer of land to I.C.A.R. The MOU and Lease Deed is yet to be executed by the State Government. That Government have been reminded.

(c) After the land is handed over by the State Government development can be initiated.

National Average Production of Wheat and Rice

4068. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that national average production of wheat and rice in the country is 22.74 and 17.51 quintal per hectare respectively ;

(b) if so, whether Government have fixed any target and formulated any policy to increase the per hectare average;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that an effort to prepare a draft proposal on agricultural policy 1992 was initiated on 21st January, 1992;

(d) if not, what are the details in this regard and whether it is also a fact that such a draft proposal has not been finalised even by January, 1994 ; and

(e) if so, in future by when the same is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) During 1992-93, the productivity of wheat and rice in the country was 23.23 quintal and 17.44 quintal per hectare respectively.

(b) The Government has fixed the targets of production of foodgrains at 210 million tonnes including wheat (66 million tonnes) and rice (88 million tonnes for the Eight Five Year Plan. The Government is also implementing various crop production programmes for rice and wheat based cropping systems to achieve higher productivity.

(c) to (e) Efforts to prepare a fresh draft agricultural policy to lay down the broad frame work of policy initiatives at micro-level to accelerate all round development and economic viability of agriculure were initiated in 1991. A draft Agriculture Policy Resolution was placed in Parliament on 23-12-1992. This was discussed in a meeting of Chief Ministers on 5th March, 1993, which broadly endorsed the thrusts and policy initiatives of the draft Resolution. Copies of the modified draft Resolution, after incorporation important suggestions made by the State during the Chief Ministers' Conference, have been placed in the Parliament on the 14th May, 1993.

Crops Insurance Scheme

4069. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that for a long time Government has been announcing the introduction of Crop Insurance Scheme;

(b) what is the position of its implementation ;

(c) the areas where it has been introduced and when it is going to be introduced in the whole country ;

(d) if not introduced so far, the reasons for this inordinate delay;

(e) whether any survey has been made about Crop Insurance in other countries, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what is the estimated cost and time limit, if any, to provide final shape to the Insurance Scheme in agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (d) Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) for wheat, paddy, millets, pulses and oilseeds is already in operation w.e.f. 1-4-1985. The Scheme is area based and credit linked. It is voluntary In addition, assistance is also being favour of this scheme. From 1985 onwards 19 States and 4 U.Ts. have implemented the scheme in one or more seasons. However, a Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme with wider coverage of crops and farmers, is also under consideration of the Government.

(e) No Sir, no detailed survey has been made by the Government.

(f) Final decision regarding details of Pilot Crop Insurance Scheme is likely to be taken shortly.

Depletion of Micro Nutrients in Soils

4070. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the micro nutrients like zinc, iron and sulpher are depleting in our soils;

(b) if so, what is the list of such elements that have shown these tendencies and what is the extent of their depletion;

(c) what are the main reasons for this phenemenon;

(d) whether it is going to affect the fertility of soils and sustainability of agriculture in the long run; and

(e) if so, what is being done in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) The statement of micro-nutrient survey conducted by ICAR indicating State-wise number of soil samples analysed and the percentage of nutrient-wise deficency found is enclosed (*See* below).

(c) Micro-nutrient deficiencies may occur due to their inadequate presence in soils. Exclusive use of high analysis chemical fertiliser which contain only N.P.K. and are devoid of incidental presence of micronutrients may also result in micronurtient deficiencies in intensively cultivated soils.

(d) If the problem of micro-nutrient deficiency is not given due attention, it is likely to affect the soil fertility and substainability of agriculture in the long run.

(e) Apart from recommending the use of micro-nutrient fertilisers, the integrated use of organic manures and chemical fertilisers is advocated. Organic manures also supply micro-nutrients and help in building soil structures and soil microfloral.

Statement

Micro-nutrient Survey —By ICAR

Extent of Micro-nutrien t deficiencies in different States

S. No.	State	Zinc		Copper		Manganese		Iron		Boron	
		1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2
1	Andhra Pradesh	4845	53	3663	0	3637	1	3596	1		
2	Bihar	10277	45	10476	2	9228	1	9462	4	1487	33
3	Gujarat	26016	25	25943	5	25971	1	24576	8	1991	2
4	Haryana	19508	64	18274	3	17944	4	17844	25		
5	Madhya Pradesh	10382	65	9641	1	9636	3	9581	3		
6	Punjab	13261	50	13261	1	13261	2	13261	13		
7	Tamil Madu	12478	43	1147	21	11709	8	12071	15		
8	U.P.	8754	64	8057	1	8135	3	8636	8		
9	Karnataka	2318	25	2318	9	2318	1	2318	2		

NOTE: (1) No. of samples analysed.

(2) %samples found deficient.

(3) About 90 districts in the country have been identified where sulpher deficiency is indicated.